

Campus Comparison Group Methodology

Distinction Designations for campuses are expanded in 2014 to identify the Top 25% Closing Achievement Gaps, Academic Achievement in Science, and Academic Achievement in Social Studies. The 2013 campus comparison group methodology is provided below for review by the ATAC Committee.

2013 State Accountability Manual Appendix G – Campus Comparison Group

Each campus is assigned to a unique comparison group of 40 other public schools (from throughout the state) within the same campus type, that closely matches that school on four demographic characteristics. Comparison groups are used to determine top 25% distinction designations and the Academic Achievement Distinction Designations (AADD) for Reading/ELA and Mathematics. Comparison groups are also useful in that schools can compare their performance to that of other schools with whom they are demographically similar.

The methodology for campus comparison groups is described below. The demographic characteristics used to construct the campus comparison groups include those defined in statute as well as others found to be statistically related to performance. They are:

- campus type (elementary, middle, high school);
- campus size (total student enrollment based on fall PEIMS);
- percent of fall PEIMS enrollment that is economically disadvantaged;
- percent of fall PEIMS enrollment that is classified as English language learners; and
- percent of students who are mobile based on prior year attendance.

The comparison groups are selected from those within the same campus type (elementary, middle, high school). For campuses under consideration, the linear distance (the square root of the sum of the squared differences of the campus characteristics) from the target campus is computed. The 40 campuses with the smallest distances are included in the comparison group for each campus. This methodology creates a unique comparison group for each campus.

Other Information:

- Comparison groups are recreated each year to account for changes in demographics that may occur.
- With this methodology, the number of times a school appears as a member of other groups will vary.
- In cases where the campus has a missing mobility value, the district's average mobility is used as a proxy. This will happen for schools in their first year of operation, since mobility is based on prior year data.
- Districts are not eligible for Distinction Designations in 2013 and are not grouped.
- Campuses evaluated under alternative education provisions are not eligible for distinctions and, therefore, do not have campus comparison groups.

Campus Comparison Group Methodology

Methodology.

Distance =

$$\sqrt{(size_A - size_B)^2 + (econ_A - econ_B)^2 + (ell_A - ell_B)^2 + (mobile_A - mobile_B)^2}$$

where

$size_A = 100 * (\text{campus size for campus A} / \text{maximum campus size statewide}^*)$

$size_B = 100 * (\text{campus size for campus B} / \text{maximum campus size statewide}^*)$

$econ_A = \text{percent of fall PEIMS enrollment that is economically disadvantaged for campus A}$

$econ_B = \text{percent of fall PEIMS enrollment that is economically disadvantaged for campus B}$

$ell_A = \text{percent of fall PEIMS enrollment that is classified as English language learners for campus A}$

$ell_B = \text{percent of fall PEIMS enrollment that is classified as English language learners for campus B}$

$mobile_A = \text{percent of students who are mobile based on prior year attendance for campus A}$

$mobile_B = \text{percent of students who are mobile based on prior year attendance for campus B}$

* maximum campus size in 2013 was 5,319

Example.

| | # of students | % ELL | %Econ Disadv | % Mobile |
|-----------------|---------------|-------|--------------|----------|
| Campus A | 1,928 | 2 | 35 | 11 |
| Campus B | 2,169 | 4 | 28 | 10 |

$$\text{Distance} = \sqrt{((100 \times (1928/5319)) - (100 \times (2169/5319)))^2 + (2 - 4)^2 + (35 - 28)^2 + (11 - 10)^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{(-4.5)^2 + (-2)^2 + (7)^2 + (1)^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{74.25}$$

$$= 8.6$$